

## Appendix 1. Search strategy and the result of each database.

Database	Search strategy	Number of studies
Ovid Medline	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. (informal* and settlement*).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>2. (shanty and town*).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>3. (favela* or ghetto* or shantytown* or shanty-town* or slum or slums).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>4. or/1-3</li> <li>5. limit 4 to english language</li> </ol>	4,688
Embase	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 (informal* and settlement*).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>2 (shanty and town*).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>3 (favela* or ghetto* or shantytown* or shanty-town* or slum or slums).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>4 or/1-3</li> <li>5 limit 4 to english language</li> </ol>	5,090
Web of Science	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 (TS=(favela* OR ghetto* OR shantytown* OR shanty-town* OR slum OR slums)) AND language: (English)</li> <li>2 ((TS=(informal* NEAR settlement*))) AND language: (English)</li> <li>3 (TS=(shanty NEAR town*)) AND language: (English)</li> <li>4 (#1 OR #2 OR #3) AND language: (English)</li> </ol>	3,553
Cochrane	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 (informal* and settlement*).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>2 (shanty and town*).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>3 (favela* or ghetto* or shantytown* or shanty-town* or slum or slums).ti,ab,kw.</li> <li>4 #1 or #2 or #3</li> </ol>	381
CINAHL	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 TI ( informal* and settlement* ) OR AB ( informal* and settlement* )</li> <li>2 TI ( shanty and town* ) OR AB ( shanty and town* )</li> <li>3 TI ( favela* or ghetto* or shantytown* or shanty-town* or slum or slums ) OR AB ( favela* or ghetto* or shantytown* or shanty-town* or slum or slums )</li> </ol> <p>S1 OR S2 OR S3</p>	1,757